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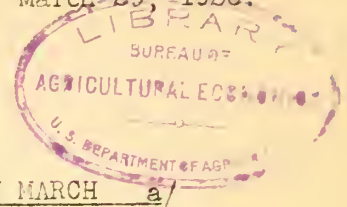
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FOREIGN NEWS ON APPLES

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CONTINENTAL EUROPEAN APPLE MARKET SITUATION IN MARCH

Germany

The German fruit trade reports general improvement in the tone of the apple market during March, according to reports from Acting Agricultural Commissioner L. V. Steere to the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. American apples, as well as continental supplies still on the market, have been moving more rapidly and prices have increased to some extent. Improvement is due mainly to the rapid disappearance of European fruit, as supplies of cheap oranges continue plentiful. Several weeks of very good weather have doubtless also contributed to the better tone of the market. The outlook for the next two or three weeks is now considered fairly favorable, as Australian fruit will not be available in any quantity much before the middle of April.

The trade states that there is a somewhat better demand for both red and yellow varieties of American fruit, with inquiry leading, however, toward yellow fruit. The great bulk of the American stocks now moving consist of boxed Winesaps, Rome Beauties, and Newtowns. Barreled fruit is practically gone. There has been complaint lately about the condition of American stocks on arrival at inland points, Winesaps being especially mentioned in this respect.

While some domestic and other continental supplies of apples are still available on German markets, the quality of the great bulk of this fruit is very poor and the demand for it weak. Barge stocks of apples on the Spree River in Berlin have dropped heavily and are no longer of any consequence. A small quantity of fruit is still coming in from Holland, Sweden and Italy.

The German statistics on imports of apples for the seven months, August - February inclusive, offer a very interesting picture of the extent to which German imports of fruit from different countries may fluctuate from year to year. The 20 per cent decline in total imports during this period as compared with the same months last year reflects the increased size of the domestic crop. The large decrease in imports from Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia was due mainly to the reduced crop in that section of Europe. Holland, however, had a comparatively large crop and the German market turned to Holland for an important share of this year's imports. The wide scattering of continental producing districts and the importance which many districts can assume in years when crops in other sections are short, make it very important for American shippers to be well informed on fruit crops over all of Europe.

APPLES: Imports into Germany by countries, season, August to February,
1926-27 and 1927-28

Country of origin	August to February		Percentage of increase or decrease
	1926-27	1927-28 a/	
	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
United States	310,606	86,402	- 72.2
Holland	79,318	273,627	+245.0
Switzerland	286,757	193,511	- 30.8
France	123,930	154,928	+ 25.0
Belgium	108,961	152,532	+ 40.0
Italy	282,595	94,912	- 66.4
Czechoslovakia	94,236	b/ 76,326	- 19.0
Hungary	63,824	b/ 72,427	+ 13.5
Austria	105,348	b/ 59,995	- 43.1
Rumania	55,245	b/ 44,634	- 20.1
Yugoslavia	77,271	b/ 30,293	- 60.8
Others	62,563	73,963	+ 18.3
Total	1,651,254	1,318,625	- 20.1

Source: Monatliche Nachweise über den auswärtigen Handel Deutschlands.

a/ Includes February imports as cableed by Acting Agricultural Commissioner L. V. Steere. b/ Imports for February from these countries, if any, included in "Others".

Denmark

Copenhagen fruit market reports covering the first half of March indicate a slight improvement in demand and prices during that period. Sales, however, were relatively small. Newtowns have been in relatively better demand than Winesaps, partly because of better condition.

Holland

March 10 market reports from Rotterdam indicate a good demand for Extra Fancy Winesaps out of the direct steamer "Nicteroy", even though they were not entirely sound in condition. Rotterdam also reports a strong demand for oranges, current arrivals of which are large but in rather bad condition.

